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"THE FOUR DARE - DEVILS"

A GREAT CIRCUS DRAMA OF  
LOVE AND VENGEANCE

CAST

DONALD	- - - - -	-ERNEST WYNAR
Aimee	- - - - -	-Margaret Shlegell
George	- - - - -	Vittorio Collani
Daisy	- - - - -	Heddy Ford
Thelma Berger	- - - - -	Vera Nansen
Count Berger	- - - - -	Fred Robert
Father Cecchi	- - - - -	Emile Rameau

In Five Reels

Approximately 5000 Feet

BRIEF STORY

In the slums of a large city where the sordid facts of life rear their heads with tragic nakedness, two small boys, Donald and George, were left homeless and destitute by the death of their mother. Their old "grammy" with insufficient funds to provide for her own up-keep, conceived the idea of taking them to Father Cecchi, an old circus proprietor. "They are poor and helpless orphans" she told him, "can you make use of them? Cecchi's unkempt appearance was not too inviting, for he was a heartless old bully, and as he came towards them, the kiddies shrunk back in fear. Gliding his mis-shapen hands over the naked bodies, to test their physical fitness, Cecchi assured himself that he could make something of them, and as the old lady passed out of the room he handed her a few coins.

The old man had two little girls in his dismal garret, Aimee and Daisy, whose sympathetic little hearts lent a kindly ear to the pitiful cries of Donald and George. As days passed there grew a strong friendship between the four children, born of their mutual suffering at the cruel hands of Cecchi. In fact, when Donald receives a beating for allowing himself to be thrown from the back of a fast moving circus pony, his tears won the whole heart of little Aimee, but Donald did not know he did not understand.

Day by day, Cecchi brought the kiddies nearer and nearer to perfection in the art of dancing, bare-back riding, and trapeze work, but their lives were a succession of weary, long-suffering days; Cecchi forcing them to difficult feats properly, with such an effect, that when they perform before their first audience, they

are an instantaneous success. As the years went by the quartette were bound by an inseparable friendship, and with maturity, Aimee and Donald were ardent lovers.

When Cecchi died, they experienced hard times until they evolved a most sensational trapeze act, which brought them immediate fame, as "The Four Dare-Devils". All went well until Donald became aware of a beautifully gowned woman, who came to the circus night after night, occupying the same seat, and riveting her attentions upon him the whole time.

She was Thelma the prepossessing daughter of Count Berger, who, struck by Donald's manly bearing and fine personality, longed for his company, and moreover was determined to get him. Meeting him after a performance she invited him to her palatial mansion, and elated at the notice taken of him, Donald neglected Aimee, and flirted with the woman far above his status. Day by day, Donald's infatuation for Thelma grew stronger, until he spent his every spare moment with her. Aimee, distressed at the thought of her life-long lover's duplicity, bore the pangs of an aching heart in silence.

Late hours and little sleep however, told on Donald, and his panther-like agility and great strength was fast leaving him, when he realised the folly of his ways. He resolved to break with the beautiful Thelma, and went to her with that end in view; but Thelma had a way with her that few men could resist, and instead of voicing his pre-arranged intentions, he fell under the spell of her fascination and confessed his love for her. Aimee becoming more and more distressed at Donald's conduct had him constantly in her mind.

A big night was arranged for at the Circus the event was to take place in the near future and was to be a benefit performance for the Four Dare Devils and, to celebrate the event Donald and Aimee were to introduce a thrilling feat known as the "death leap", without the use of the safety nets.

Aimee retiring is filled with the thought of the coming performance and of the loss of Donald's love and in a dream knowing that a woman has come between her and Donald appears to do all in her power to win him back. Failing to do so her great love turns to contempt and hatred.

On the great night the circus is packed to overflowing and the event of the evening the "death leap" is widely discussed.

Aimee in her dream has seen vividly, with all the effect of reality the enactment of the scenes described above and feels that she is just as guilty of having murdered Donald by having given thought to such a heartless scheme, as if she had actually done the deed. Meanwhile Donald realizing the error of his ways and Aimee's life long devotion breaks the chains which have bound him to Thelma and a reconciliation takes place.



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